YOLDIA MÖLLER, 1842, and *PORTLANDIA* MÖRCH, 1857: PROPOSED DESIGNATION OF A TYPE-SPECIES UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS WITH REJECTION OF *YOLDIA ARCTICA* MÖLLER, 1842. Z.N.(S.) 1522

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There has been and still is some confusion about the two genera *Yoldia* Möller, 1842, and *Portlandia* Mörch, 1857. Both were in fact established on species which were given incorrect names though the description or cited synonyms clearly indicate the characters of these genera. It is therefore necessary to put the question of the type-species before the Commission and to obtain a final settlement.

1. Gray (1824) described two species viz. *Nucula arctica* (p. 241) and *Arca glacialis* (p. 244), both from Prince Regents Inlet. The descriptions are clear and these two species are today known as *Portlandia arctica* (Gray) and *Bathyarca glacialis* (Gray). Much confusion has arisen as Wood (1828) unfortunately figured *Nucula arctica* Gray under the name *Arca glacialis* (Pl. 2, fig. 6). The last name was used by Mörch (1857) and even by Gray himself (1851) as *Yoldia glacialis*. In the British Museum there are two valves named " *N. glacialis* Gray, and *M. truncata* Brown ", which are *P. arctica* (Gray). In the meantime other names had been given to *N. arctica* viz. *N. truncata* Brown, 1827; *N. portlandica* Hitchcock, 1837; *N. siliqua* Reeve, 1855.

2. As *Nucula arctica* Gray has been considered to be the type-species both of the genus *Yoldia* Möller, 1842, and of the subgenus *Portlandia* Mörch, 1857, there are several difficulties relating to the type designations. It seems advisable to start with the youngest genus.

3. Mörch (1857, p. 93) lists under Gen. 81 *Nuculana* Link, Sbg. *Portlandia* aut.? However, there seems to be no earlier reference to this name in print. It must therefore be dated from 1857 as of Mörch. The subgenus is monotypic as Mörch mentions one species only with three synonyms in the following way:

Sbg. *Portlandia* aut?
188. *N. glacialis* (*Arca*) Gray. Parry. Voy. Wood Supp. t. 6.
Yoldia Portlandica Woodward non Hitsch.
Nucula truncata Brown. Ill. XXV. f. 19.
Yoldia glacialis Gray. Cat. Brit. Moll. p. 161.

N. glacialis (*Arca*) Gray is used according to the reference to Wood, t. 6 (=*Nucula arctica* Gray). The three synonyms listed below all refer to the same species. The species is not misidentified by Mörch, but the wrong use of the name dates from Wood (1828).

The taxon *Portlandia* Mörch, 1857, has at least in Northern Europe, been used with *Nucula arctica* Gray as type-species for more than a half century.

4. H. P. C. Möller in his " Index Molluscorum Groenlandiae ", Hafniae 1842, established the genus *Yoldia* on p. 18. He mentions two species: *Y. arctica* and *Y. angularis* nob. Apparently Möller thought that his first species was identical with *Nucula arctica* Gray, as this name was added between

commas after the name *Y. arctica*. However, the diagnosis of the genus and the description of the species clearly show that the reference to *Nucula arctica* Gray is erroneous. Therefore Möller's *Yoldia arctica* is a species distinctly different from Gray's *Nucula arctica*. *Y. angularis* Möller is a synonym of *Nucula thraciaeformis* Storer, 1838, which is the type–species of gen. *Megayoldia* Verrill and Bush, 1897.

5. Torell (1859, pp. 145–152) discussed this nomenclatural problem and introduced the specific name *Yoldia hyperborea* for *Y. arctica* Möller non Gray. The name *Y. hyperborea* was first mentioned by Gould (1841, p. 99) as a manuscript name of a shell from Spitsbergen sent to him by Lovén. The name was here a nomen nudum. A full diagnosis and figures are given by Torell (1859, p. 149, Tab. 2, figs. 6a, b). The correct name of this species must therefore be *Yoldia hyperborea* Torell, 1859.

6. The earlier designations of the type-species for gen. *Yoldia* have been discussed by Grant and Gale (1931, p. 127). Stoliczka (1871) designated *Y. lanceolata* Sow. as type though this species was not mentioned by Möller. Verrill and Bush (1897) say: " Type *Y. hyperborea* Torell " and Dall (1898) assumed that Torell's species probably was equivalent to *Y. arctica* Gray of Möller and designated *hyperborea* as type-species. As the wording of the earlier designations has been more or less incorrect I made a new designation (1959, p. 14).

7. To prevent a revival of the specific name *Yoldia arctica* Möller, 1842, which would cause still more confusion, it should be placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Names in Zoology.

8. The originally erroneous use of the names of the type-species of the genera *Yoldia* Möller, 1842, and *Portlandia* Mörch, 1857, makes it necessary to obtain a final decision. Therefore the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is asked:

(1) to use its plenary powers:
    (a) to set aside all designations of type-species for the nominal genus *Portlandia* Mörch, 1857, made prior to the Ruling now requested and to designate the nominal species *Nucula arctica* Gray, 1824, to be the type-species of that genus;
    (b) to set aside all designations of type-species for the nominal genus *Yoldia* Möller, 1842, made prior to the Ruling now requested and, having done so to designate the nominal species *Yoldia hyperborea* Torell, 1859, to be the type of that genus;
(2) to place the following generic names on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology:
    (a) *Portlandia* Mörch, 1857 (gender: feminine), type-species, by designation under the plenary powers in (1) (a) above, *Nucula arctica* Gray, 1824;
    (b) *Yoldia* Möller, 1842 (gender: feminine), type-species, by designation under the plenary powers in (1) (b) above, *Yoldia hyperborea* Torell, 1859;
(3) to place the following specific names on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:

(a) *arctica* Gray, 1824, as published in the binomen *Nucula arctica* (type-species of *Portlandia* Mörch, 1857);

(b) *hyperborea* Torell, 1859, as published in the binomen *Yoldia hyperborea* (type-species of *Yoldia* Möller, 1842);

(4) to place the specific name *arctica* Möller, 1842, as published in the binomen *Yoldia arctica* (not a new name but a misidentification of *Nucula arctica* Gray, 1824) on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology.

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